GREAT NORTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Contact: Bob Guptill (509-535-5291/Fax 535-5293/e-mail – bguptill@gnacsports.com) June 6, 2011

Bighill, Zack Voted GNAC Scholar-Athletes of the Year

SPOKANE, Wash. – Central Washington football standout Adam Bighill and Saint Martin's basketball star Dara Zack have been voted the 2010-11 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Male and Female Scholar-Athletes of the Year.

The two will now be candidates for the 2011 Conference Commissioners Scholar-Athlete of the Year award, which will be selected this summer.

Bighill (Montesano, WA) was a American Football Coaches Association first team All-American linebacker last fall when he ranked second in the GNAC in tackles (96) and led the conference in tackles for losses (16 ½) and forced fumbles (4). He also scored three touchdowns, including two on blocked punts and one on a fake punt.

Bighill, who recently signed a contract with the British Columbia Lions of the Canadian Football League, finished his career ranked fourth in school history with 314 tackles. He also set a school-record with 46 career tackles for losses in earning *GNAC Defensive Player-of-the-Year* honors.

Academically, the senior exercise science major earned a 3.674 grade point average and was a three-time GNAC Academic all-conference selection. He also earned CoSIDA Academic All-District honors in both his junior and senior seasons.

Zack (Spokane, WA – University), who majored in English, compiled a 3.90 grade point average in earning her third GNAC Academic all-conference award. She also was a recipient of a NCAA Degree Completion scholarship and was a member of the Saint Martin's University Society of Fellows.

On the court, she was the second leading scorer in the GNAC this past winter, averaging 15.3 points per game. She also finished eighth in the conference in rebounding, averaging 6.7 per contest.

She ended her career as the leading scorer (1,503) and rebounder (831) in Saint Martin's history. She ranks sixth all-time in the GNAC in both categories.

GNAC Scholar-Athletes-of-the-Year

Years	Male	Female
2001-02	Erik Totten, Western Washington (Football)	Nichole Sauvageau, Seattle (Soccer)
2002-03	Tobias Schwoerer, Alaska Anchorage (Cross Country)	*Nichole Sauvageau, Seattle (Soccer)
2003-04	Rob White, Western Washington (Football)	Liz Bishop, Western Washington (Volleyball)
2004-05	Nathan Carlson, Saint Martin's (Cross County & Track)	Martina Kartikova, Saint Martin's (Basketball)
2005-06	*Tony Binetti, Seattle Pacific (Basketball)	Lindy Mullen, Central Washington (Track & Field)
2006-07	*Adam Jensen, Seattle (Soccer)	*Ana Gutierrez, Seattle (Soccer)
2007-08	*Keith Lemay, Western Washington (Cross Country & Track)	Amanda Peters, Northwest Nazarene (Soccer & Track and Field)
	Jarred Rensvold, Montana State Billings (Cross Country & Track)	
2008-09	Sam Charles, Montana State Billings (Soccer)	*Ashley Puga, Northwest Nazarene (Cross Country & Track and Field)
2009-10	*Sam Charles, Montana State Billings (Soccer)	+Jessica Pixler (Cross Country & Track and Field)
2010-11	Adam Bighill, Central Washington (Football)	Dara Zack, Saint Martin's (Basketball)

^{*}Conference Commissioners Regional winner. +National Award Winner